

# THE BULLETIN



A Publication of the Overseas Press Club of America • Hotel Biltmore, 55 East 43rd Street, N.Y. 10017 • (212) 687-2430

## AWARDS DINNER RATES 'ONE OF BEST'

By ROY J. BATTERSBY

What was described as "one of the best — if not the best — we ever had" was held at the Hotel Biltmore, Tuesday, April 15, when the OPC's 36th Annual Awards Dinner was held. The comment was made by several members and guests to President *Jack Raymond*.

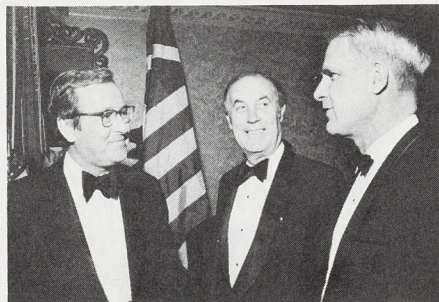
Approximately 500 members and guests crowded the grand ballroom where John Chancellor, anchorman of NBC-TV's Nightly News program, emceed the festivities. He was in excellent form as was *Lowell Thomas* and *Ben Grauer*. Mr. Thomas was the recipient of the OPC President's Award for his long and distinguished service. It was only the fourth time the award has been made since its inception in 1956.

The only somber note was struck by Secretary of Defense Dr. James R. Schlesinger, who earlier in the day had testified before a Congressional committee, to the effect that at least 200,000 South Vietnamese, and possibly more than one million, would be killed if the country fell to the Communists.

"This is not the time to attempt a detailed assessment of what has transpired in Southeast Asia, Dr. Schlesinger said. "Perhaps a full understanding of these events will never be available, and for this reason we should endeavor to keep our passions in check — and, above all, to look to the future," he said.

The shortened version of the awards presentation was highly praised as were the exhibits of the award winners, which were made up by W.R. Grace & Co., and Dow Jones & Co., under the direction of Corinne A. Forti. The slide presentations shown during the awards presentation, showing the winners and their entries, with *Ben Grauer's* running commentary, were done by NBC-TV under the direction of Russ Tornabene with *Jim Harper*, Al Smith and *Bud Lewis*.

All news media covered the event particularly the press briefing before the dinner. ABC, CBS, NBC, Voice of America, both radio and TV sent crews. The Associated Press, United



Emcee John Chancellor, NBC News, OPC prexy Jack Raymond and Defense Secretary Dr. James R. Schlesinger (l. to r.) temporarily tabled the world's tribulations in favor of new frolicsome quips.

(Photo by Camille Vickers)

## CALENDAR

**Tuesday, May 6, 5:30 p.m.** — "Cocktail At Home." *Mary Hemingway* Deep-sea fishing, Cuba, Great Barrier Reef, Cabo San Lucas, Spain, Bull-fights, Blitz on London, East Africa, Veneto. Cash bar.

**Tuesday, May 6, 12 Noon** — Deadline OPC Bulletin of May 15.

**Thursday, May 8, 5:30 p.m.** — VE Day Plus 30 Reunion. First-hand memories of the German surrender by the correspondents who covered it. \$1.00 fee. (Page 1)

**Tuesday, May 13, 5:30 p.m.** — "Cocktail At Home." *B. Mathieu-Roos*, New Yorker reporter in Paris, the Balkans, Africa and the Mideast and art connoisseur. Cash bar.

**Thursday, May 15, 5:30 p.m.** — "Cocktail At Home." Actress *Madeleine Clive* will entertain with scenes from her dramatic repertory. Cash bar.

**Wednesday, May 21, 5:30 p.m.** — "Headliners Dinner" to feature businessman-philosopher Christopher G. Janus. Topic: quest for the bones of the Peking Man which has held world attention since their disappearance from China in WW II. Cocktails: 5:30 p.m. Buffet dinner: 6:30 p.m., \$8.00 including tax and gratuities. Reservations.

**Thursday, May 22, 5:30 p.m.** — "Cocktail At Home." *Felice Levin*, Ford

## SIX CORRESPONDENTS TO MARK V-E DAY IN SPECIAL OPC PANEL

Six correspondents who covered the German surrender at Reims, France, on May 7, 1945 will take part in a panel discussion of that historic event at the OPC's "V-E Day Plus 30" Reunion to be held Thursday, May 8 at the Club. May 8 is the official V-E Day although the actual surrender was signed the previous day.

Included on the "surrender" panel (with their 1945 news affiliations) are *Jimmy Kilgallen*, International News Service; *Boyd Lewis*, United Press; *Price Day*, Baltimore Sun (who also covered for London's Exchange Telegraph); *Ralph Morse*, Life Magazine; *Charles Collingwood*, CBS, and *Charley Kiley*, Stars and Stripes. Except for Collingwood, who was then in Europe, these are same panelists who participated in the OPC's 20th anniversary of V-E Day when the late General Eisenhower was the guest speaker.

An Open House party, the V-E Day event will start at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails (cash bar) followed at 6:45 p.m. by the panel discussion. An entrance fee of \$1.00 will be levied to cover costs of a War Department film on the actual surrender, music and hors d'oeuvres. Reservations are required.

Foundation Consultant and researcher/writer for other prestigious nonprofit institutions. Question: How Firm Our Foundations. Cash bar.

**Tuesday, May 27, 5:30 p.m.** — "Cocktail At Home." *Larry Stessin*. A switcheroo. Our "Talking Shop With ..." expert talks shop about his recent high-level-street-level tour of the Mideast.

**Thursday, June 5, 5:30 p.m.** — "Cocktail At Home." *Warren Goodman*, reporting on trip to the great Southwest in search of aviation and other stories. Cash bar.

**RESERVATIONS:** Please call Mary Novick, 687-2430. Reservation cancellations must reach the OPC 24 hours before the event, otherwise members will be charged the announced fee.

(Continued on page 2)





## AWARDS DINNER. . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Press International covered with reporters and photographers, the New York Times sent a reporter and the New York Post a photographer, but the photographers who gained the most comment were a gorgeous Ms. photographer from NBC and OPC's charming *Camille Vickers*.

In addition to holding down long-winded speakers and prolonged award ceremonies there were other lighter sides to the evening. An efficient hostess on duty at the door of the Key Room reception for VIP's wasn't going to allow *Jack Raymond*, our president and the chief of the Secret Service detail into the room as their names weren't on her list.

Pre-dinner music and playing of the National Anthem was provided by 35-piece band of the 26th Army Band, Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn. The color guard from the fort wore Revolutionary War uniforms.

*William Clabby* was dinner chairman and *Holmes Brown*, co-chairman. *John Scott* was chairman of the awards committee.

## 'COCKTAILS AT HOME'

The Tuesday and Thursday "Cocktails At Home" at the OPC got off to a splendid start April 10, with *Herb Silverman* chatting informally with 25 or 30 members about his life as travel writer and chairman of the Club's art exhibitions. *Wilma Dobie*, known far and wide as OPC Jazz Chairman, followed April 17 with a colorful disquisition on covering the international jazz scene and the agonies and ecstasies of Huroking the Club's Twilight Jazz Concerts. Upcoming programs are listed in *The Bulletin* calendar.

These informal in-house shoptalk evenings are important to the life of the Club in more ways than one. Financial, yes. But comments from those attending stress the pleasure that members take in growing to know one another better in small rap sessions.

The evenings are the innovation



SCENES FROM AWARDS DINNER — At the dais, top (l. to r.): *Ben Grauer*, NBC; *Louis Calderoni*, OPC Treasurer; *John Leslie*, Chairman, Bache & Co.; *Fred Taylor*, Managing Editor, Wall Street Journal; *Elmer Lower*, Vice President, ABC; *Anita Diamant Berke*, OPC Vice President; *Robert Campbell*, Publisher, Newsweek; *Dr. James R. Schlesinger*, Secretary of Defense; *Jack Raymond*, OPC President; *John Chancellor*, NBC; *Gerald Long*, Managing Director, Reuters; *Stanley M. Swinton*, World Services Director, Associated Press; *Elie Abel*, Dean, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism; *Helen Alpert*, OPC Secretary; *John B. Olson*, President and Publisher, N.Y. Press; *Matthew Bassity*, OPC Vice President. Lower picture shows that the newsworld came to the Biltmore's Grand Ballroom for the OPC's Annual Awards Dinner on April 15.

(Photos by Camille Vickers)

of the Hospitality Committee, *Ruth Biemiller*, chairman. Committee members: *Mary Ansbro*, *Jay Brennan*, *George Burns*, *John Devlin*, *Hildegard Fillmore*, *Florence Friedman*, *Mary Lou Johnson*, *Felice Levin*, *Ralph Leviton*, *Rosanne McVay*, *Helen Mandel*, *Jim Morisseau*, *Dorothy Omansky*, *Joe Peters*, *Cindy Reagan*, *Don Shannon*, *Camille Vickers*, *Gloria Watson*, *Gloria Zukerman*.

## WANNA GET PAID?

The Saturday Evening Post (now a monthly based in Indianapolis) is trying to contact the following people who once wrote for that magazine, to pay them, or their estates, for the right to reprint their work:

George Weston  
Duvan Polk  
Will Jesse Cook

If you know how to reach any of these men, please phone collect to Mrs. Jean White, (317) 634-1100.



Best-dressed fellow was *Lowell Thomas* 83, resplendent in gold embroidery. The OPC president 40 years ago, *Lowell Thomas*, was presented with the OPC Presidents Award by the current prexy *Jack Raymond*.

(Photo by Camille Vickers)





**SHIRLEY TELLS OF CHINA TRIP**—A capacity audience heard actress Shirley MacLaine at the April 14 "Shoptalk" following her six-week tour of the People's Republic of China with a delegation of American women. Larry Stessin, chairman of the "Shoptalk" series introduced her. Ms. MacLaine's new book on the China trip is titled "You Can Get There from Here." With the group was a pro film crew which produced a documentary of the trip titled "The Other Half of the Sky: 'A China Memoir,' currently seen on TV.

(Photos by Camille Vickers)

## MEMORIES HONORED

As part of the bicentennial celebration, the Public Affairs Division of the Department of Defense is honoring the memory of our correspondents killed while covering wars in this century by establishing a permanent display of their memorabilia in the Pentagon's Memorial Alcove.

Among the first contributions are a number of items left by Ben Robertson who lost his life in the crash of the Yankee Clipper at Lisbon on February 22, 1943. Robertson, 39, was on his way back to England to head the London bureau of the Herald-Tribune after covering World War II for the paper in several areas.

The memorabilia were supplied by Robertson's surviving sisters Mrs. Mary Longley of Dalton, Georgia, and Mrs. Fred Wagner of Clemson, South Carolina, after OPC member Wright Bryan, also a war correspondent and former editor of The Atlanta Journal, now residing in Clemson, had called their attention to an item in the OPC Bulletin Jan. 15, 1975, about the Pentagon's project.

Every one of our many colleagues who lost their lives covering wars should be part of the memorial. Their relatives and friends are urged to get in touch with Colonel DeForrest Ballou III, Director for Community Relations, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Washington, D.C. 20301, for details.

## SILURIANS' DINNER

The Society of the Silurians, veteran newspapermen and women's association, announced the winners of their annual medallion awards in 15 categories. The medallions will be presented at the annual dinner May 7 in the Tower Suite.

The staff of The Daily Item, Port Chester, N.Y., under the direction of Ronald Patafio, then city editor, for Spot News coverage of the June 30 fire which destroyed Gulliver's Discoteque and in which 24 young people died.

New York Times reporters garnered three medallions. The Public Service award to John L. Hess, for a story on nursing home abuses and frauds. Leslie Maitland, to a newperson in the profession less than five years, for a story on a young criminal and a special citation to Richard Flaste for articles on parent and children topics.

Newsday has two winners in the Feature News and Special Citation categories. John Pascal for "Long Island Diary" a continuing column of portraits of life happenings on Long Island in the former category and the paper for a special supplement "The Great South Day" a report on the environment.

The New York Daily News took two medallions, one for the spot news photo by Charles Frattini on "Plainclothes Cops at Work." William Sherman and Bert Shanas, special citation for stories on Joseph Monserrat of the Board of Education.

The Sunday Record, Hackensack, N.J., also took two awards. For editorial and commentary, James Ahearn on the pros and cons of the New Jersey casino law. Bruce Locklin will receive his medallion for economic reportage on the collapse of a New Jersey brokerage house.

Barbara Yunker, of the New York Post, for news analysis on the issues in the

murder trial of a Long Island doctor.

Ronald Frehm, The Associated Press, in the feature news photo category, for his picture of John Mitchell entering the federal courthouse.

Town & Village was awarded the Community Service by a Weekly Newspaper for its coverage of the Stuyvesant Town tax abatement issue.

Awards in the electronic media field will be given to Dr. Frank Field, NBC-TV special citation for general excellence in reporting health news, and a medallion to John and Christine Lyons, WNEW radio, for their 21-episode documentary on "Hidden Passengers" regarding the transportation of dangerous chemicals.



## THE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is published on the 1st and 15th of each month by the Overseas Press Club of America, Inc. Air-mailed to members overseas. First-class mail to others.

### Bulletin Committee

Harry Rand, Chairman; Helen Alpert, Ruth C. Biemiller, Charles H. Brown, Lawrence Klingman, Thomas J. Kraner, Grace Naismith, David Resnick, Susan F. Roberts, Ralph Salazar, J. Wendell Sether.

Editor: Harry Rand

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## WhoWhatWhere

By GRACE NAISMITH

**NEW LOOK: Frederick G. Harmon**, managing director of the American Management Association's Europe Centre in Brussels, is returning to New York to become executive vice president and general manager of AMA's Presidents Association ... **Mason Rossiter Smith** has formed a new company, CAN DO, and has been appointed a distributor for Success Motivation Institute, Inc. of Waco, Texas. Mason was formerly director of the university press and lecturer in journalism at the American University in Cairo. CAN DO is in Rhinebeck, N.Y. (He likes the new OPC headquarters at the Biltmore.)

**AWARDS:** The Associated Press Broadcasters has announced a new broadcasting award — The Robert Eunson Award — to honor **Robert Eunson**, AP's vice president and assistant general manager in charge of broadcast services. The award will be presented annually, beginning in 1976, tied in with the bicentennial celebration. Eunson, 62, has served AP for 33 years as a correspondent executive in the U.S., Europe and Asia. He has said, "As a professional, the journalist ... has only one reason for existence — to report facts as he sees them."

**PUBLISHING EVENTS: Douglas F. Storer** writes from Clearwater, Fla.: "Most folks think that people who move to Florida are retired and only have to fish and play golf. 'Taint so.'" He is working on six of his Amazing but True! books for Simon & Schuster — "Amazing But True Animals" already on Pocket Book racks from coast to coast, the rest of the series coming soon. And he is also continuing his newspaper, radio and TV specials ... **Ruth Sheldon Knowles's** new book, "America's Oil Famine: The Drama of our Energy Crisis," published by Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, Inc., "pieces together the complex puzzle known as our current energy crunch." A geologist and a one-time wildcatter, she knows the oil-well scene well ... **Ralph Gardner**, who presented selections from his collection of 19th century American literature to the University of Wyoming's Hebard Library some years ago, spoke at the University recently on "Horatio Alger; or The American Hero Era."

**TRAVELERS: Herb Silberman**, off to Ireland on several assignments, including the Shannon Development Company's program on restoring the mentally ill to a useful life in society.

**SEEN ON THE SCENE:** Sam Levenson. ... Charlotte Seitlin of Simon & Schuster ... **Warren Goodman**, fellow alumnus of Sam Levenson at Brooklyn College — and **Helen Alpert**, doing a story for Retirement Living on Sam ... **Cara Duff-MacCormick**, acting award winner, with **Dorothy Ingling**. ... **Matt Rutner**, Johnson & Johnson PR.

### NEW MEMBERS Active Overseas

**Maurice Ragsdale**, Freelance, Surrey, England.

### Active Resident

**S. Eagle**, Friedar, Journalist, Nande Aqu Editorial, Paraguay.

**Cynthia Neeseman**, Journalist, Nande Aqu Editorial Paraguay.

**Margaret Pacey**, Associate Editor, Barron's Financial Weekly.

### Active Non-Resident

**Bern Keating**, Freelance, Greenville, Mississippi.

### Associate Resident

**Charles Hanson**, President, Hanson, Fassler and Kolody.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

#### Active Resident

**Herbert E. Meyer**, Associate Editor, Fortune Magazine.

**SPONSORS: Jack Raymond, Will Yolen.**

#### Associate Resident

**Ingrid Hallen Coleman**, Associate Editor, Patricia Lewis Literary Agency.

**SPONSORS: Rosanne McVay, Dorothy Omansky.**

**Jefferson Glassover**, Promotion Manager, Village Voice.

**SPONSORS: Will Yolen, Ruth C. Biemiller. Werner Mark Linz**, President and Editor-in-Chief, The Seabury Press.

**SPONSORS: Alex Liepa, Anita Diamant Berke.**

### CHANGE OF STATUS

#### Associate Resident to Active Resident

**Yoko Hamada Macnow**, Correspondent for Josei Jishin.

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